

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 746

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to commend Joshua Bennett for exemplary service as a legislative intern.

WHEREAS, each legislative session this body is pleased to recognize certain persons who have committed themselves, through their adroit service, to the betterment of the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Bennett is one such individual who distinguished himself in his role as a legislative intern for Senator Dolores Gresham and the Senate Education Committee; Joshua's work resulted in innumerable benefits for the legislators he assisted and the General Assembly as a whole; and

WHEREAS, a student at Austin Peay State University, where he is highly regarded by his peers, Joshua Bennett has achieved academic success while majoring in political science and participating in numerous extracurricular activities, which include videography for the Austin Peay Governors football team and work as an intramural referee for UREC; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Bennett's college career actually began at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville after his receipt of a four-year ROTC scholarship; he left Knoxville after one year and entered the U.S. Army as an enlisted soldier; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bennett attended Basic Combat Training (BCT) at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, as part of the 2-39 Infantry Unit and was sent to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, upon graduation to begin training as an 88M (Transportation); and

WHEREAS, attached to the 58th TRANS Charlie Company, Joshua Bennett was deployed to Iraq with the 206th TC out of Opelika, Alabama, within six months of the completion of his job training; and

WHEREAS, stationed at Talil Air Force Base in Southern Iraq, Mr. Bennett was awarded the Army Commendation Medal following his tour. Upon his return to the States, he discovered

that his home station unit, the 212th TC, would be deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF); and

WHEREAS, volunteering to deploy, Joshua Bennett mobilized with his unit and was stationed at Camp Leatherneck in Helmand Province Afghanistan; he was awarded the Combat Action Badge and a second Army Commendation Medal following his tour; and

WHEREAS, utilizing his veteran benefits following his military service, Mr. Bennett earned his associate degree in political science at Motlow State Community College, graduating with honors in 2013 before transferring to Austin Peay State University; and

WHEREAS, eager to familiarize himself with the characteristics and complexities of Tennessee state government and to further his studies, Joshua Bennett brought his many abilities and singular expertise to Capitol Hill for the 2014 session of the One Hundred Eighth General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 2014 legislative session, Joshua surpassed all criteria that define a devoted and conscientious legislative intern; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Bennett performed his many duties with extraordinary insight and rare decorum; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Joshua Bennett for outstanding service as a legislative intern for Senator Dolores Gresham and the Senate Education Committee and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.